

Ashley Hastings

The Dream

Opus 2

A Chamber Opera in One Act
for Soprano, Mezzo-soprano, and Piano

This score is for the 2023 production by Cascadia Chamber Opera



Story, libretto, and music by Ashley Hastings.

**Copyright ©2022 by Cabaletta Productions LLC.
All Rights Reserved.**

The story, characters, places, and events depicted in this opera are all fictitious. No identification with actual places, events, or persons, living or dead, is intended.

This edition of score is for the 2023 production by Cascadia Chamber Opera. It is not to be used for any other purpose without written permission from Cabaletta Productions LLC.

Please send inquiries to: info@cabalettaproductions.com

The first (workshop, semi-staged) performance of this opera was on July 24, 2022, at Emmaus Lutheran Church, Eugene, Oregon.

Emily Pulley (Penny Pensive)
Jocelyn Claire Thomas (Verity Semper)
Nathalie Fortin (Piano)

CONTENTS

CHARACTERS	iv
THE STORY	v
LIBRETTO	vi
SCORE	xvii

CHARACTERS

Penny Pensive

Mezzo-soprano

Penny is a middle-aged woman who has recently begun a mid-life career as a writer of romantic novels. She is intelligent, quick-witted, and headstrong, but she suffers from feelings of insecurity and inadequacy. She can be both sentimental and acerbic, depending on the situation.

Verity Semper

Soprano

Verity is the main character in Penny's novels. She is an emotionally volatile young woman whose emotions and moods (grief, anger, defiance, despair, hope, joy) are all strongly felt and expressed.

THE STORY

Penny Pensive, a pretentious and irascible writer, has enjoyed some degree of success with her first novel, *Light and Truth*, which tells the story of a young woman named "Verity Semper."

Penny is now trying to complete a sequel. But she has hit a snag: In Chapter 19 she has Verity's husband Frank killed by robbers, and now she has no idea how to move forward. She has been wrestling with this dilemma for two weeks.

Penny sips some wine and tries out various ideas, to no avail. Her agent (Gordon) calls to nag her about missing her deadline. She hangs up on him and takes a nap.

Someone knocks on the door. It turns out to be woman claiming to be Verity Semper! She is upset that Penny has written a book about her without permission. At first, Penny is incredulous, but Verity presents irrefutable evidence that she is in fact Penny's fictitious character. She tells Penny that her husband Frank was killed by robbers two weeks ago. When Penny admits that she wrote about Frank's death two weeks ago, Verity flies into a rage and accuses Penny of murder.

At first, Penny tries to persuade Verity to accept her loss, but Verity gradually gains the upper hand, pouring out her grief and reducing Penny to tears of sympathy and guilt. Prompted by Verity, Penny deletes the offending chapter. Seconds later, Frank Semper phones to tell Verity that they are moving to Oregon to manage the family winery. This, then, is the happy ending that Penny needed for her new novel. There is joy and celebration.

Penny wakes up and tells Gordon that the solution to her writer's block has come to her in a dream.

But what kind of dream was it? The very last word in the libretto makes us wonder...

LIBRETTO

Writer's studio apartment. Penny enters briskly, moving with queenly self-assurance, carrying a shopping bag. From the bag, she extracts two or three bottles of wine, plus a few other groceries. She puts all away except for one bottle, which she places on her desk next to the computer. She takes a large wine glass from a cupboard, sits down at her desk, opens the wine, and fills her glass. She takes a healthy swig and sighs contentedly. She opens her computer and talks to herself as she works, taking frequent sips of wine.

Penny Back to work.
The day after Frank's funeral, Verity resolved to find new purpose in life.
Delete!
Having lost her husband, Verity tried reaching out to old friends.
Delete!
For two weeks after Frank's funeral, Verity just sat and stared into space.
Delete!
What the hell does Verity do without Frank?

[phone rings] Penny Pensive.
Oh hi, Gordon.
Oh, it's going pretty slow.
Yes, I'll miss the deadline.
What's the problem? You ask me what's the problem?
Gordon, you're an agent, a literary agent.
And you have no idea how much agony writers must endure!
I try so hard to please my readers! And they love Verity, my heroine!
In my very first novel, *Light and Truth*,
Verity marries her childhood friend, Frank Semper.
But life is not all joy! Great fiction is not only hearts and flowers.
There must also be tragedy!
In the second "Verity" novel, which I am writing now, in Chapter Nineteen,
Verity's beloved husband Frank is killed by a burglar
at Ralph's Sporting Goods, where he was employed.
What's the problem? I'll tell you what's the problem!
I wrote about Frank's death two weeks ago. Ever since then I've been stuck!
What comes next? How does it end? How does Verity cope with her grief?
Does she stare into space? Reach out to old friends? Or seek a new purpose in life?
No, Gordon! I do NOT have writer's block! I am meeting a challenge!
I need a nap.

She lies down on her daybed and closes her eyes. She falls into a light sleep but is soon awakened by someone knocking on her door. She gets up.

Who is at my door? Who is at my door?
Maybe it's a salesman with lovely things for sale.
Or maybe it's the postman, bringing me my mail.
Or maybe a policeman, to haul me off to jail!
Or maybe it's a pizza!

Penny goes to the door and opens it at the last knock. Verity is standing there, holding a very large canvas shopping bag.

Penny Yes, can I help you?

Verity Are you Penny Pensive?

Penny Guilty as charged.

Verity takes a book from her bag.

Verity And did you write this book?

Penny Yes! Yes! Yes! I am the author of *Light and Truth*! The title is the motto of my alma mater.

It's my very first novel, it's selling very well. Shall I autograph it for you?

Verity How dare you? How dare you? How dare you? How dare you?

Penny Why are you screaming at me?

Verity You've written a book about me! And you put my picture on the cover!

Penny Nonsense! Nonsense! Who do you think you are?

Verity I am Verity Semper! The woman in this book!

Penny You must be insane. I'll call the psychiatric hotline.
Insane. Insane. *[etc.]*

Verity Just look at the woman's face on the cover of this book!
Then look at my face! The same! The same!

Penny I see! The same!
This must be a scam! a scam! *[etc.]*

Verity Here is my driver's license. Look at the picture, look at my face!
The same! The same!
And look at the name! The name! Verity, Verity, Verity Semper!

Penny If you turn to the copyright page, you will read the following words:
"This is a work of fiction."
"Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental."

Verity And if you turn to page fifteen, you will read the following words:
 “Verity was a straight-A student at Wilson High School.”
 And I was a straight-A student at Wilson High School.

Penny So you say. So you say.

Verity Here is my diploma. Wilson High School. Summa cum Laude.
 And if you turn to page forty-three, you will read the following words:
 “Verity was married to Frank Semper, her childhood friend.”
 And I, too, was married to Frank Semper, my childhood friend.

Penny So you say. So you say.

Verity Here’s our marriage license, and photos of our wedding.
 And, if you turn to page sixty-one, you will read the following words:
 “Verity played tennis like a tiger, with a devastating serve.”
 And I play tennis like a tiger, with a devastating serve.

Penny So you say. So you say.

Verity pulls a tennis racket from the bag and wildly serves invisible tennis balls, while Penny cowers in fear and drops everything she was holding.

Penny I don’t understand. How can you be real?
 I imagined you. I created you. How, how, how can you be real?

Verity I am real. Feel me, feel! Feel!

Verity comes close to Penny, who reaches out and touches her face. Verity then touches Penny's face in the same way. They smile.

Penny Why did you buy this book?

Verity I saw the picture on the cover, and I said to myself, “She looks like me!”
 And the title was *Light and Truth*.
 I thought it was meant for me, as a sign of comfort to ease my grief. My grief!

Penny Oh, my dear... please sit down. Let’s have a glass of wine!

Penny gets another glass for Verity and pours each of them a glass of wine.

Verity Ah, very nice!
 Silken texture, notes of moss on wet stone. Amusing finish of roasted fig.

Penny I see you are a connoisseur.

Verity My father-in-law owns a winery in Oregon!

Penny Yes, I know. That's in the book, too.
It's nice to share a glass of wine, and maybe some day we'll be friends.
But let's get one thing straight: I wrote the book. You read the book.
Everything you know about Verity you learned from the book.
And I don't know what kind of game you are playing, but it won't work with me!

Verity But I showed you proof! Driver's license, Verity Semper.
Marriage license, wedding pictures. High school diploma, summa cum laude!

Penny Clever forgeries.

Verity But my face!

Penny Plastic surgery.

Verity But my grief! My grief! My grief is not in your book!

Penny Very well. Let's hear your sympathy-seeking sob story.

Verity For days I just stared into space.
I tried reconnecting with old friends.
I resolved to find new purpose in life.

Penny Why?

Verity My husband Frank was killed.

Penny How?

Verity He was shot, in a robbery.

Penny Where?

Verity Ralph's Sporting Goods.

Penny When?

Verity Two weeks ago.

Penny That is not in the book you read, but it is in the sequel,
which is not finished, which no one has seen.

Verity I don't follow.

Penny goes to her desk and reads from the computer screen.

Penny Two weeks ago I sat at this desk and wrote the following words:
"Chapter Nineteen.
"One quiet Sunday morning, Frank Semper got up early, while Verity was still asleep.
"He had a quick breakfast and went to the store, to work on inventory.
"When he parked his car in the alley behind Ralph's Sporting Goods,
"Frank saw that the stockroom door was standing open.

“He went inside, and confronted two men.

“One of them shot Frank. They ran away. Frank bled to death on the floor.”

Verity Your words killed my husband! You killed Frank!
I curse you! Curse you! Curse you! Curse you! Curse you!

Penny Stop! Stop! Stop! What are you doing?
Do you think this is some kind of... opera?

Verity sings threateningly, advancing toward Penny.

Verity Ah Ah Ah!

Penny grabs two bananas for helmet horns and charges at Verity.

Penny Hojotoho! hojotoho! heeaha! heiaha!

They glare at each other, then laugh and embrace.

Penny I must be having a crazy dream.

Verity Things are not always as they seem. Maybe the dream is mine.

Penny Or maybe we’ve had too much wine.

Both Am I dreaming you? Are you dreaming me? Or are we dreaming each other?
Or... Could someone else be dreaming us both?
That would be hard to discover.

Penny “We are such stuff as dreams are made on;
“And our little life is rounded with a sleep.”
Prospero, The Tempest, Shakespeare.

Verity Shakespeare murdered people!
Shakespeare killed Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, Ophelia, Antony and Cleopatra.
Shakespeare was a monster!
And you! You killed my beloved Frank!
“The Moving Finger writes; and, having writ,
“Moves on: nor all thy Piety nor Wit
“Shall lure it back to cancel half a Line,
“Nor all thy Tears wash out a Word of it.”
Quatrain Fifty One, Rubaiyat of Omar Khaiyam, Edward FitzGerald.

Penny Let’s have another glass of wine, and then perhaps we will be friends.
Let’s see... Which glass is yours? Of course! The one with lipstick!

You always wear lipstick. And why do I know that? Because I wrote you!
I myself never wear lipstick.

Verity Why is that?

Penny It's a sad story.

Verity What else would it be?

Penny When I was a school girl, I had the Bad Penny Blues.
When I was a schoolgirl, I had the Bad Penny Blues.
Flip a coin, heads or tails, I would always lose.
They called me "Bad Penny" cause I kept turnin' up.
They called me "Bad Penny" cause I kept turnin' up.
They said I was ugly as a junkyard bulldog pup.
So I put on lipstick and a fancy wig.
Yeah, I put on lipstick and a fancy wig.
People said, "Penny put lipstick on a pig."
Bad Penny Blues. Flip a coin and lose.
Always turnin' up. Ugly as a pup.
Lipstick on a pig. Lipstick on a pig.
Bad Penny, Bad Penny. Bad Penny Blues.

That is why I never wear lipstick, and why you always do.
I wrote you to enjoy the joy I never knew.

Verity If you wrote me for joy, then why am I grieving? Why must I live without Frank?
He was the first boy I kissed,...

Penny Yes, I know.

Verity ...and the only man I loved.

Penny I wrote that.

Verity Our wedding was a day of bliss, of bliss.

Penny I wrote those words. I wrote those words.

Verity The future lay before us like a field of gold.

Penny Verity, Verity, child! I know what I wrote! But listen to me! Listen to me!

Penny begins to march in place.

Strong women must be bold!
Ready to take one for the team!
Frank was just a summer dream.
Now we must face the cold.
Harsh new challenges create
Fresh opportunities for gain!

Frank's death will cause you pain.
Pain will make us great!

Verity begins to march in place.

Verity I will march in my own key!
I do not care how great you are!
You have gone a step too far.
You will not use me!
If I had Frank by my side,
I would be strong and bold.
I could face the cold.
But this grief I can't abide.

One Sunday morning, Frank got up early, while I was still asleep.

Penny I wrote that. I wrote that.

Verity We did not say good morning. We did not say good morning.

Penny How tragic. How tragic.

Verity Frank went downstairs and ate his breakfast, while I was still asleep.

Penny I wrote that. I wrote that.

Verity We did not eat together. We did not eat together.

Penny How poignant. How poignant.

Verity Frank left the house and went to work, while I was still asleep.

Penny I wrote that. I wrote that.

Verity I did not kiss my husband. I did not kiss my husband.

Penny What sorrow! What sorrow!

Verity Frank found two thieves, who shot him to death while I was still asleep.

Penny I wrote that. I wrote that.

Verity We did not say good bye. We did not say good bye.

Penny sobs in sympathy and guilt.

Verity You gave. You took away. Why did you create me? Why?

Penny Because I love you!
Oh, Verity, Verity, what have I done?

Verity You know what you've done.
The question is: What will you do now? What's next for me?

Penny What will I do? What's next for you? I have no idea!
I wrote that fatal chapter two weeks ago.

Verity You mean the chapter where my husband dies?

Penny That's right.

Verity Horrible chapter!

Penny That's right. And ever since I wrote those words...,
I know this may sound quite absurd...,
I've been completely stuck! Stuck! Stuck! Stuck! I can't write a word! A word!
I don't know what to do! What to do! What to do!

Verity Penny, Penny, you have writer's block! writer's block! writer's block!

Penny I know! I know, I know! I know!

Verity Penny, Penny, listen to me.
You have said that you created me for joy.
You have said that you created me for love.
You love me so much that when Frank died, you felt my grief.
Penny, Penny, we are bound together.
I put on a coat when you write about cold weather.
I always wear lipstick; you never do. I am the other half of you!
So.... My grief filled your heart, where it crystallized.
And that hard lump of grief is why you're paralyzed.
Penny, Penny, Penny, here's what you must do.
Trash that dreadful chapter, and write something new!
Write a happy ending for Frank and me!

Penny I will trash that dreadful chapter! I will write something new!
I will write a happy ending for Frank and you!
But... But... But...

Verity But what, my dear? Why do you hesitate?

Penny What if I can't think of anything new?
What if I can't find a happier ending for Frank and you?

Verity You are a writer, you know how to write.
Trash the bad chapter, you'll see the light.

Penny But... But... But...
What if I make a tragic mistake?
What if I write something wrong and cause your heart to break?

Verity You have a kind heart, you won't cause me grief.
Just make sure Frank encounters no thief!

Penny But... But... But...
What if the ending is boring and stale?
What if my efforts to make us grow fall flat and fail?

Verity Penny, my dearest, we've already grown.
Seize the day and make it your own!

Resolutely, Penny goes to her computer.

Penny Chapter Nineteen! Chapter of death! Depart! Avaunt! Begone!

Penny hits the Delete key. After a moment of bliss, the phone rings.

Penny Penny Pensive.
Yes, she's here.
It's your husband.

Penny hands the phone to Verity.

Verity Hello, Frank, I know I'm late. Sorry I didn't call you.
I'm just having a glass of wine with a friend.

Sweetheart, sweetheart, wonderful news! I'll come right home and help you plan the move!

We have a happy ending, we have a happy ending!

Penny So tell me all about it, tell me all about it.
I love to see you happy! happy! Now tell me the news!

Verity We're moving to Oregon! Frank's father is retiring,
And Frank will become the manager of his father's winery in Oregon!
And I will be the head winetaster!

Penny I'll drink to that!
There will be work, there will be fun, in Oregon, in Oregon.
There will be prizes to be won, in Oregon, in Oregon.

Verity Where lofty mountains are capped with snow!
Where mighty rushing rivers flow!
Where cattle graze on the high plateau!
And grapevines on the hillsides grow!

Penny There will be challenges to meet. Life is sour as well as sweet.
There may be hailstorms, heat waves, smoke, for climate change is not a joke.

The grapes may wither for unknown reasons.
The football teams may all have losing seasons.

Verity Bring on the heat waves, bring on the hail! Frank and I will prevail!
We are a pair of over-achievers. We will cheer for the Ducks and Beavers!
One for all, and all for one, in Oregon!

Penny Oregon!

Both Where lofty mountains are capped with snow!
Where mighty rushing rivers flow!
Where cattle graze on the high plateau!
And grapevines on the hillsides grow!

Verity Penny, it's time for me to go. But first... I want to say...
I'm glad you don't wear lipstick. I love your face this way.
You remind me of my mother.

Penny Verity... I am your mother.

They embrace, then drift apart. Verity drifts toward the door, while Penny drifts toward the daybed.

Penny "We are such stuff as dreams are made on;"

Verity "And our little life is rounded with a sleep."

Penny lies down.

Penny A sleep. Asleep. Sleep...

She falls asleep. The phone rings.

Penny Pensive.
Hello, Gordon. I have excellent news!
I will meet the deadline! My problem is solved!
I have had the most wonderful dream! I dreamed that Verity came to me,
and she showed me how to end this book, and how to start the next one!
No, Gordon! I have not gone crazy! I said it was a dream! I was asleep!
I am not in the habit of talking to fictitious people when I'm awake!
Or agents, when I'm busy!
What a jerk!

She hangs up, then looks around the room.

This place is a mess!

She starts to straighten.

La la la la, la la la la, la la la la, la la la...

She picks up a wineglass and stares at it in astonishment.

Lipstick!

THE END

SCORE

1. The empty apartment	Piano	1
2. Penny enters	Piano	2
3. Back to work	Penny	4
4. Who is at my door?	Penny	13
5. Yes, can I help you?	Penny, Verity	16
6. How dare you?	Verity, Penny	19
7. You must be insane	Penny, Verity	22
8. If you turn to the copyright page	Penny, Verity	25
9. I don't understand	Penny, Verity	31
10. Oh, my dear	Penny, Verity	34
11. But I showed you proof!	Verity, Penny	39
12. For days I just stared into space	Verity, Penny	42
13. Two weeks ago	Penny, Verity	46
14. I must be having a crazy dream	Penny, Verity	52
15. We are such stuff as dreams are made on	Penny, Verity	55
16. The moving finger writes	Verity	57
17. Let's have another glass of wine	Penny, Verity	59
18. Bad Penny Blues	Penny	62
19. That is why I never wear lipstick	Penny, Verity	66
20. Strong women must be bold!	Penny, Verity	69
21. One Sunday morning	Verity, Penny	73
22. You gave. You took away.	Verity, Penny	78
23. Penny, Penny, you have writer's block!	Verity, Penny	82
24. Frank calls	Penny, Verity	91
25. We're moving to Oregon!	Verity, Penny	94
26. Penny, it's time for me to go	Verity, Penny	101
27. Gordon calls again	Penny	103

“Dreams are never concerned with trivia.”

— Sigmund Freud

The Dream

1

Ashley Hastings

Ashley Hastings

1. The Empty Apartment

Writer's studio apartment, with daybed, kitchenette, table, computer, etc.

1

$\text{♩} = 120$

Verity

Penny

Piano

mp *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *mf*

11

Pno.

mf *dim.* *pp*

attacca

The musical score is for a piece titled 'The Empty Apartment' from a larger work 'The Dream'. It is composed by Ashley Hastings. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 120. It features three parts: Verity, Penny, and Piano. Verity and Penny have staves with rests. The Piano part is more complex, featuring dynamics like *mp*, *pp*, *mf*, and *mf*, and includes triplets and an *attacca* marking. The score is numbered 11.

2. Penny Enters

Penny enters briskly, moving with queenly self-assurance, carrying a shopping bag.
From the bag, she extracts two or three bottles of wine, plus a few other groceries.
She puts all away except for one bottle, which she places on her desk next to the computer.

20

$\text{♩} = 88$

Pno.

Pno.

Penny takes a large wine glass from a cupboard,
sits down at her desk, and opens the wine.

2. $\text{♩} = 132$ ($\text{♩} = \text{♩}$)

Pno.

She fills her glass with wine.

Pno.

Pno.

She takes a healthy swig and sighs contentedly.

59

Pno.

The musical score for piano accompaniment (Pno.) spans measures 59 to 64. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). Measure 59 begins with a half rest in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measures 60-62 feature a series of chords in the treble, with a *cresc.* (crescendo) marking in measure 60 and a *f* (forte) marking in measure 62. The bass line consists of half notes. Measures 63-64 show a continuation of the treble chords, with a final double bar line at the end of measure 64.

3. Back to work

Penny opens her computer and talks to herself as she works, taking frequent sips of wine.

67

67 ♩. = 88

P. *mf* Sips. Types.

Back to work. The day af-ter Frank's fu-ner - al,

Pno. *mf*

80

P. Sips. Shakes head. Deletes.

Ver - i - ty re - solved to find new pur-pose in life. De - lete!

Pno.

92

P. Sips. Types.

Hav-ing lost her hus - band, Ver-i - ty tried reach - ing out

Pno.

103

P. Sips. Shakes head. Deletes. Sips. Types.

to old friends. De - lete! For two

Pno.

117

P. *dim.*-----

weeks af - ter Frank's fu - ner - al, Ver - i - ty just sat and stared in - to

Pno.

130

P. *p* Stares into space. Shakes head. *f* Deletes.

space De - lete!

Pno. *dim.* *pp* *f*

145 *In frustration.* Takes a swig. **156** $\text{♩} = 132$ $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$ **The phone rings.**

P. What the hell does Ver-i-ty do with-out Frank?

Pno. *ff* *f* 6

157 *mf* $\text{♩} = 100$ **meno mosso** *Not very enthusiastically.*

P. Pen-ny Pen-sive. Oh hi, Gor-don.

(Lyrics in piano represent what the voice on the phone is supposed to be saying.)

Pno. 6 6 (Hi. This is Gor-don.) *pp*

una corda: una corda

166

P. Oh, it's go-ing pret-ty slow.

Pno. (How's it go-ing?) {Does this mean you'll miss the dead-line?}

una corda una corda

175 *f*

P. Yes, I'll miss the dead-line. What's the prob-lem? You ask me what's the

Pno. (What's the prob-lem?) *f* tre corde

una corda

181 186 $\text{♩} = 120$

P. prob - lem? Gor - don, you're an a - gent, a

Pno. *ff* *f*

188 2

P. lit - er - ar - y a - gent. And you have no i - de - a how much ag - o - ny writ - ers must en - dure!

Pno. *mp*

195 $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

P. I try so hard to please my read - ers! And they love Ver - i - ty, my

Pno. *f* *mp* *f*

203 206 $\text{♩} = 60$ ($\text{♩} = \text{♩}$) *mf*

P. her - o - ine! In my ver - y first no - vel, *Light and Truth,*

Pno.

210 $\text{♩} = 120$ $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

P. Ver - i - ty mar - ries her child - hood friend, Frank Sem - per. But

Pno.

215

P. life is not all joy! Great fic - tion is not on - ly hearts and flow - ers.

Pno.

219 *ff* 223 $\text{♩} = 80$ *mf*

P. There must al-so be trag - e - dy! _____ In the sec - ond "Ver - i - ty"

Pno.

226

P. nov-el, which I am writ-ing now, in Chap-ter Nine - teen, Ver - i-ty's be -

Pno.

234 *f* ²

P. lov - ed hus - band Frank is killed by a bur - glar at Ralph's Sport-ing Goods, where

Pno.

241

P. *ff*

he was em-ployed. What's the prob-lem? I'll

Pno. *pp* (So, what's the prob-lem?) *ff*

una corda tre corde

243

$\text{♩} = \text{♩}$
 $\text{♩} = 120$

248

P.

tell you what's the prob - lem!

Pno.

250

P. *ff*

I wrote a - bout Frank's death two weeks a - go. Ev - er since then

Pno. *p* *f*

257

P. I've been stuck! What comes next? How does it end?

Pno.

264

$\text{♪} = \text{♪}$
 $\text{♩} = 80$

P. How does Ver - i - ty cope with her grief?

Pno.

276

P. Does she stare_____ in-to space? Reach out_____ to old friends? Or seek_____ a new

Pno.

287

$\text{♪} = \text{♪}$

P. pur _____ pose in life? _____ No, Gor-don! I do

Pno.

(Sounds like you have writ - ers block.)

pp *ff*

una corda tre corde

297 Penny hangs up.

P. NOT have writ - er's block! I am meet-ing a chal - lenge!

Pno. *mp* *f*

309 Takes a swig.

P. I need a nap.

Pno. *p*

317 She lies down on her daybed and closes her eyes.

Pno. *dim.* *pp*

4. Who is at my door?

324

♩ = 120

Penny falls asleep.

poco a poco ritardando

Pno.

334

♩ = 60

Pno.

346

Pno.

350

Penny open her eyes and gets up.

♩ = 120

Penny

Curiously.

accelerando.....

P.

Who is at my door?

Wd. Bl.

355 *Eagerly.*

P. Who is at my door? May-be it's a sales - man with love-ly things for sale.

Pno.

Wd. Bl.

360 *Thoughtfully.* *In sudden dread.*

P. Or may-be it's the post - man, bring-ing me my mail. Or

Pno.

Wd. Bl.

365 *f In happy anticipation.*

P. may-be a po-lice - man, to haul me off to jail! Or may-be it's a piz - za!

Pno.

Wd. Bl.

Penny goes to the door and opens it at the last knock.

Verity is standing there, holding a very large canvas shopping bag.

369

Pno.

Wd. Bl.

Measure 369: Pno. Treble staff: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Bass staff: whole rest. Wd. Bl.: whole rest.

Measure 370: Pno. Treble staff: sustained chord (G4, A4, B4, C5). Bass staff: sustained chord (G3, A3, B3, C4). Wd. Bl.: quarter rest.

Measure 371: Pno. Treble staff: sustained chord (G4, A4, B4, C5). Bass staff: sustained chord (G3, A3, B3, C4). Wd. Bl.: quarter note (D4).

Measure 372: Pno. Treble staff: sustained chord (G4, A4, B4, C5). Bass staff: sustained chord (G3, A3, B3, C4). Wd. Bl.: whole rest.

5. Yes, can I help you?

373

373 ♩ = 80

Penny regards Verity with suspicion.

VERITY
Politely.

V. *Are*

P. *PENNY*
Regally.
f
 2
Yes, can I help you?

Pno. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

V. 379 2
you Pen - ny Pen - sive?

P. *PENNY*
Suspiciously.
Guilt - y as charged.

Pno. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

385 **Verity takes book from her bag.** **VERITY** *Still politely, but with an edge.*

V. *And did you write this book?*

Pno. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

391 ♩ = 120 (♩ = ♩)
Penny's demeanor brightens. **PENNY** *Exuberantly.*

P. *Yes! Yes! Yes! I am the au - thor of Light and Truth!*

Pno.

395 *Didactically.* ♩ = 80

P. *The ti - tle is the mot - to of my al - ma ma - ter.*

Pno.

399 *Proudly.* *Graciously.*

P. It's my ver - y first nov - el, it's sell - ing ver - y well. Shall I au - to-graph it for

Pno.

404

P. you? _____

Pno.

6. How dare you?

409 **VERITY**
In cold fury, gradually getting hotter.
mp

V. 409 $\text{♩} = 144$

Pno.

mf cresc. *ff*

How dare you?

V. 413 **Penny recoils in confusion.** *mf* *f* *ff*

How dare you? How dare you? How dare

Pno.

mf cresc. *ff*

V. 419 you?

P. **PENNY**
Alarmed.
f

Why are you scream - ing at me?

Pno.

423

V. VERITY

You've writ - ten a book a-bout me! And you

Pno. *mf cresc.* *ff* 3 3 3

428

V. put my pic-ture on the cov - er!

P. PENNY

Non-sense!

Pno. 5

432

V. VERITY

I am Ver - i - ty Sem - per!

P. Non-sense! Who do you think you are? _____

Pno. 5

439

V.

The wo - man in this book!

Pno.

443

7. You must be insane

444

444 ♩ = 144

P. **PENNY** *p*

You must be in-sane. I'll call the psy-chi-at-ric hot-line. In -

Pno. *mf* *p*

V. **VERITY** *f*

Just look at the wo-man's face on the cov-er of this book! Then

P. *Muttering under her breath, with many suspicious glances at Verity.*

sane. In - sane. In - sane. In-sane. In-sane.

Pno.

V. *456*

look at my face! *f* The same! The same! **PENNY** *mf*

P. In-sane. In-sane. I see! The

Pno. *mf*

464 **Verity pulls a huge driver's license out of the bag** **VERITY** *f*

V. Here is my driv - er's li - cence.

P. *p* same! This must be a scam! a scam! a scam! a scam! a

Pno.

470

V. Look at the pic - ture, look at my face! The same! *f* The same! And

P. scam! a scam! a scam! a scam! a scam!

Pno.

475

V. look at the name! the name! Ver - i - ty, Ver - i - ty, Ver - i - ty Sem - per!

P. a scam!

Pno.

483

Pno.

The musical score for piano (Pno.) begins at measure 483. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The right hand (treble clef) plays a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, while the left hand (bass clef) provides a steady accompaniment of quarter notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

8. If you turn to the copyright page

487 **PENNY**
Penny takes the book from Verity, opens it, and shows it to Verity.

487 ♩. = 96 *f*

P. If you turn to the cop-y-right page, you will read the

Pno. *f*

493 *With an air of righteous triumph.*

P. fol - low - ing words. This is a work of fic - tion.

Pno.

499 *2*

P. An - y re - sem-blance to ac - tu - al per - sons, liv - ing or dead,

Pno.

508

VERITY

Verity grabs the book, turns
pages, shows it to Penny.

And if you turn to page fif-teen,

cresc. *ff*

is en - tire - ly co - in - ci - den - tal.

cresc. *ff*

511

V. you will read the fol - low - ing words. Ver - i - ty was a

Pno. *f*

517

V. ² straight - A stu - dent at Wil - son High School. And

Pno.

522 *cresc.* ----- *ff*

V. *I was a straight-A stu-dent at Wil - son High School.*

P. *PENNY*
mf
So you say. So you say.

Pno. *cresc.* ----- *ff*

528 **VERITY** *Verity pulls a diploma out of the bag and hands it to Penny.*

V. *Here is my di - plo - ma. Wil - son High School.*

Pno.

534 537 *mf* **Verity turns pages.**

V. *Sum - ma cum Lau - de. And if you turn to page for-ty-three,*

Pno. *mf*

540

(♩ = ♩)
♩ = 144

V. you will read the fol - low - ing words.

Pno.

545

V. *f* Ver - i - ty was mar - ried to Frank Sem - per, her child - hood friend. *ff* And I, too, was

Pno.

550

V. mar - ried to Frank Sem - per, my child - hood friend.

P. *mf* PENNY
So you say. So you say.

Pno.

Verity pulls a marriage license and a photo album out of the bag
and hands them to Penny, who is having trouble holding everything.

555 **VERITY**

V. Here's our mar - riage li - cense, and pho - tos of our wed - ding.

Pno.

561

Verity turns pages.

561 *f*

V. And, if you turn to page six-ty-one, you will read the fol - low-ing words:

Pno.

566

V. Ver - i - ty played ten - nis like a

Pno.

570 *ff*

V. ti - ger, with a dev - as - ta - ting serve. And I play ten - nis like a

Pno.

575

V. *ti - ger, with a dev - as - ta - ting serve.*

P. **PENNY**
Muttering, bewildered and cowed.
mf
So you say. So you say.

Pno. *ff*

**Verity pulls a tennis racket from the bag and wildly serves invisible tennis balls,
while Penny cowers in fear and drops everything she was holding.**

580

Pno.

584

Pno. *fff*

9. I don't understand

588 $\text{♩} = 80$

PENNY
mf

P. I don't un-der - stand. How can you be real? I i - ma-gined you.

Pno. *mf*

596

VERITY
f

V. I am real.

P. I cre - at - ed you. How, how, how can you be real?

Pno. *f*

604 *ff*

V. Feel me, feel! Feel!

ff

Pno. *p* *cresc.*

Verity comes close to Penny, who reaches out and touches her face. Verity then touches Penny's face in the same way. They smile.

618 622 (♩ = ♪) PENNY *mp* Gently.

P. Why did you buy this book?

Pno. *f* *p*

627 VERITY *Tragically.* *mp* *mf*

V. I saw the pic-ture on the cov-er, and I said to my - self, "She looks like me!"

Pno. *mp*

636 *cresc.* *f* *dim.* *mf*

V. And the ti - tle was "Light and Truth". I thought it was meant for me.,

Pno. *cresc.* *f* *ff* *mf* *mp*

644

V. *mp* *p* *Sobbing.*

as a sign of com - fort to ease my grief. My grief!

Pno. *dim.* *p* *mf*

The musical score is for a voice and piano piece. The voice part (V.) is in treble clef, and the piano part (Pno.) is in grand staff. The score includes lyrics and dynamic markings. The voice part starts with a measure rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The piano part starts with a measure rest, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The score includes lyrics and dynamic markings.

10. Oh, my dear

656 **PENNY**
With genuine concern.

P. $\text{♩} = 80$ *mp* *mf*

Oh, my dear... please sit down. Let's have a glass of wine!

Pno. *p* *mp*

Penny gets the bottle of wine and two glasses.

662

Pno. *mp*

Penny pours a glass of wine for Verity.

666

Pno. *mf dim.* *mp* *mp*

Penny pours herself a glass of wine.

669 *mf*

Pno. *dim.* *mp*

673 **They both drink.**

VERITY
mf

$\text{♩} = \text{♩}$
 $\text{♩} = 80$

V. *Ah, ver-y nice! Silk en tex -*

Pno. *cresc.* *ff* *mf*

3

684

V. *ture, notes of moss on wet stone. A -*

Pno.

694

V. *mus_ ing fin - ish of roast ed fig. My*

P. **PENNY**
I see you are a con - nois - seur.

Pno.

713

♩ = 120 ♪ = ♩

705

V. fa-ther-in - law owns a wi-ner - y in Or - e - gon!

P. PENNY *mf* Sternly.
Yes, I know.

Pno. *mp*

Penny sits and faces Verity.

717

P. *sf* That's in the book, too. _____ *f* It's

Pno. *mf*

729

P. nice to share a glass of wine, _____ and may - besome day we'll be friends. _____

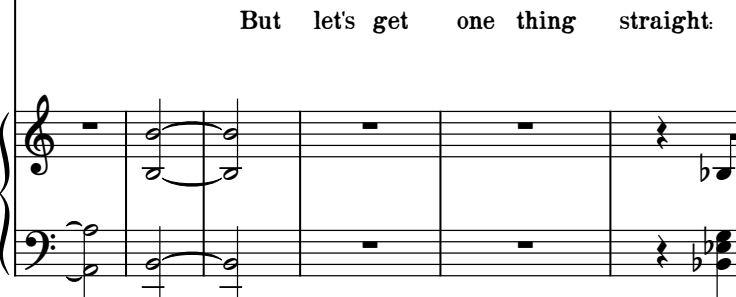
Pno. *f*

737

P. 

But let's get one thing straight.

I wrote the book.

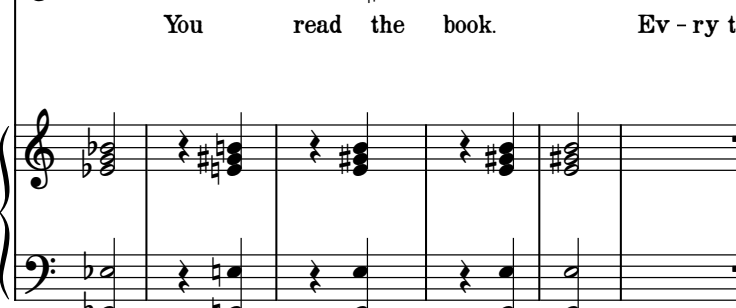
Pno. 

747

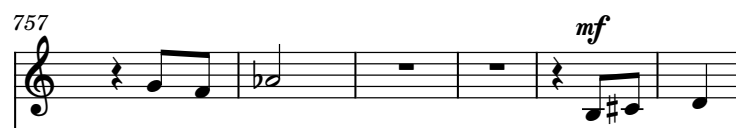
P. 

You read the book. Ev - ry thing you know a-bout Ver - i - ty you learned

cresc.-----*ff*

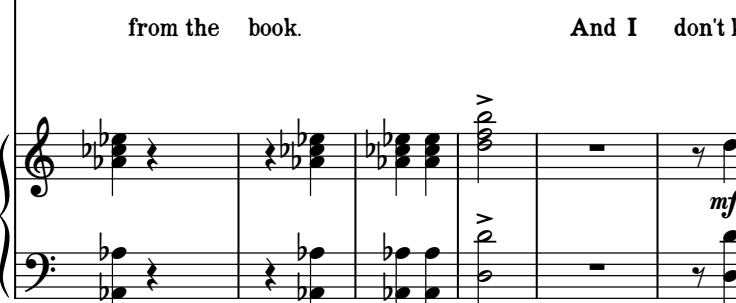
Pno. 

757

P. 

from the book. And I don't know what kind of game you are play - ing.

mf

Pno. 

767 *cresc.* ----- *ff*

P. but it won't work with me!

Pno. *f* *ff* *v* *v*

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is for the voice (P.) and the bottom staff is for the piano (Pno.). The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The voice part begins at measure 767 with the lyrics 'but it won't work with me!'. The piano part provides accompaniment with chords and dynamics. The score includes a crescendo line and a fortissimo (ff) dynamic marking.

11. But I showed you proof!

773 Verity stares at Penny in shock. **VERITY** *f* *With an air of hurt innocence.*

V. *But I showed you proof!*

Pno. *mf*

783 Verity displays each item. Penny looks at them with cold disdain.

V. *Driv-er's li - cence, Ver - i - ty Sem - per, mar - riage*

Pno.

792

V. *li - cence, wed - ding pic - tures, high school di - plo - ma,*

Pno.

801 *Triumphantly.* ***ff*** 810

V. *sum - ma cum lau - de!*

Pno. *mf cresc.* ***ff*** *mf*

811 **VERITY**

V. *PENNY*
Coldly. ***f*** *But my face!*

P. ***f*** *Clev - er forg - er - ies.* ***PENNY*** *Plas - tic sur - ger -*

Pno.

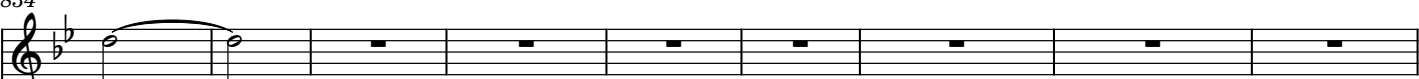
823 **VERITY**

V. *But my grief! My grief! My grief is not in your*

P. *y.*

Pno.

834

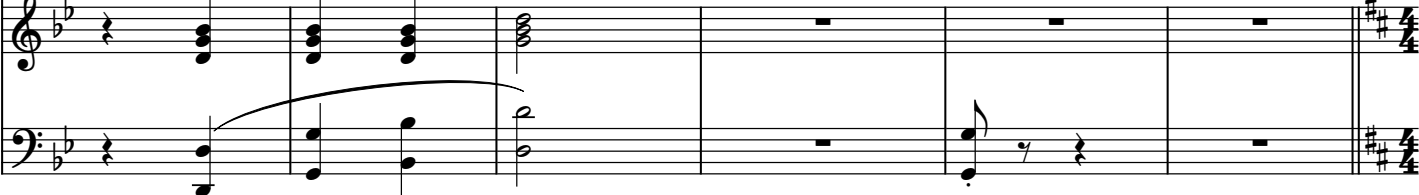
V. 
book!_____

P. 
PENNY
Ver - y well. Let's hear your sym - pa - thy seek - ing

Pno. 

843

P. 
sob_____ stor - y.

Pno. 

12. For days I just stared into space

849 **849** **VERITY**
mf

V. For days I just stared in - to space.

Pno. *mp*

856 **Penny is startled to hear her own words uttered by Verity.**

V. I tried re-con-nect - ing with old friends. I re - solved to find new

Pno.

862 **Penny is gobsmacked.** *Sadly.*
p

V. pur - pose in life. My hus - band Frank was killed.

P. **PENNY** *In shock.*
mp
Why?

Pno. *f*

868 *Becoming increasingly tragic.*

V. He was shot, in a rob - ber-y. Ralph's Sport - ing Goods.

P. *mf* How? *f* Where? *ff* When?

Pno.

874 877 The air goes out of Penny.

V. Two weeks a - go.

Pno.

878 **PENNY** *mp* Seriously, mysteriously.

P. That is not in the

Pno.

880

P.

book you read, but

Pno.

882

P.

it is in the

Pno.

884

molto ritardando

a tempo
p

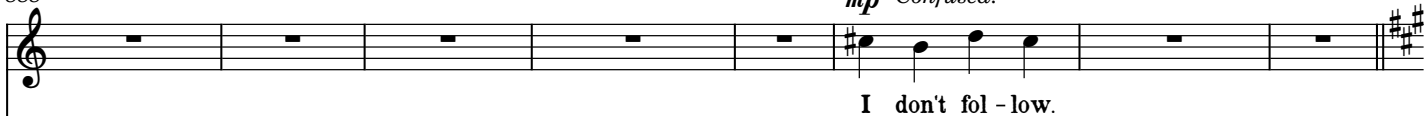
P.

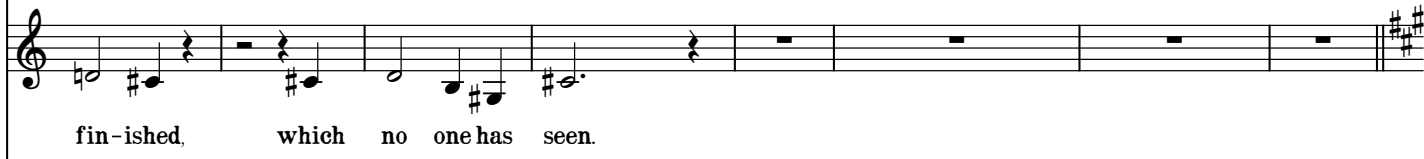
se - quel, which is not

Pno.

888

VERITY
mp *Confused.*

V.  I don't fol - low.

P.  fin-ished, which no one has seen.

Pno.  *p*

13. Two weeks ago

896 **896** Penny goes to her desk and hits some keys on the computer. PENNY *mp* Grimly.

P. *Two weeks a - go I*

Pno. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

901 *Mechanically.* Penny reads from her computer.

P. *sat at this desk and wrote the fol - low-ing words: "Chap - ter Nine -*

Pno. *mp* *ff*

907 *teen. One qui-et Sun - day mor - ning, Frank Sem - per got up ear - ly, while*

P. *teen. One qui-et Sun - day mor - ning, Frank Sem - per got up ear - ly, while*

Pno.

912 **Verity is puzzled.**

P. *Ver - i - ty was still a - sleep. He had a quick break - fast and went to the store, to*

Pno.

916 **Verity is incredulous.** *mf*

P. work on in - ven - tor - y. When he parked his car in the

Pno.

921

P. al - ley be hind Ralph's Sport - ing Goods, Frank saw that the stock - room

Pno.

925 **Verity is horrified.** *f*

P. door was stand - ing o - pen. He went in - side, and con -

Pno.

930 *ff* *f*

P. front - ed two men. One of them shot Frank. They ran a - way.

Pno.

Verity stares furiously at Penny.

938 *mf* *dim.*-----*p* 943

P. *Frank bled to death on the floor."*

Pno. *p* *pp* *cresc.*

Verity points angrily at Penny.

948 **VERITY** *ff*

V. *Your words killed my hus-band! You killed Frank!*

Pno. *(cresc.)*-----*ff* *f* *ff*

955 *molto ritardando* $\text{♩} = 80$

Pno. *mf cresc.*

959 *Viciously.* *ff*

V. *I curse you!*

Pno. *ff* *mf cresc.*

962

V. *ff* *ff*

Curse you! Curse you! Curse you! Curse you!

Pno. *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff*

964

P. **PENNY** *ff* *ff*

Stop! Stop! Stop! What are you do-ing? Do you think this is some kind of... o-per-a?_

Pno. *mf* *ff*

Verity advanced threateningly. Penny back away in shock.

968 $\text{♩} = 144$ *ff*

V. *La la la la la la la la la la La la la la la la la la*

Pno. *f*

972

V. *la La la la la la la la la la la la la la*

Pno.

974 **Penny grabs two bananas for helmet horns and charges at Verity.** *ff* **PENNY**

P. *Ho - jo - to-ho!*

Pno. *ff* *f* *Red.*

976

P.

ho - jo - to - ho! hei-a - ha! hei-a -

Pno.

Red.

They glare at each other; then,
realizing how ridiculous they both
look, they laugh and embrace.

978

P.

ha!

Pno.

f *ff*

Red.

14. I must be having a crazy dream

980

♩ = 120

V. VERITY *mp* Things are

P. PENNY *mp* I must be hav - ing a cra - zy dream.

Pno. *p*

V. not al - ways as they seem. May - be the dream is mine.

P. PENNY Or

Pno.

V. VERITY *mf* Am I dream-ing you?_____

P. PENNY *mp* may - be we've had too much wine. Am

Pno. *mf*

1000

VERITY
mp

V. *mf* Are you dream-ing me?

P. I dream-ing you? Are you dream-ing me?

Pno. *mp*

1007

mf *cresc.* *f*

V. Or are we dream - ing each oth - er?

PENNY
mf *cresc.* *f*

P. Or are we dream - ing each oth - er?

Pno. *mf* *mp*

1014 *mp*

VERITY

V. Or... Could some - one else be dream-ing us

PENNY
mp

P. Or...

Pno. *p*

1021 VERITY

V. both?

P. PENNY
Some-one else? Dream-ing us both? PENNY

Pno. *mf*

1029 *ritardando*..... ♩ = 80
mp dim...... *pp*

V. That would be hard to dis - cov - er.

P. That would be hard to dis - cov - er.

Pno. *p dim.*..... *pp*

15. We Are Such Stuff As Dreams Are Made On

1034

♩. = 54
PENNY

mp

P. "We are such stuff as dreams are made on; and our lit-tle life is round-ed

Pno. *mp*

1054

VERITY *f*

V. Shake - speare

P. with a sleep." Pro-sper-o, The Temp - est, Shake - speare.

Pno.

1055

ff

V. mur - dered peo - ple! Shake - speare killed Ro-me-o and Ju-li - et,

Pno. *mf* *f*

1062

V. *Ham - let, O - phe-li - a, An - to - ny and Cle - o - pa - tra.*

Pno.

1068

V. *Shake-speare was a mon - ster! And you! You killed my be - lov - ed Frank!*

Pno.

16. The Moving Finger Writes

1076

(♩ = ♩)
♩ = 80

V. VERITY *f*

"The mov-ing fing-er writes, and hav-ing writ,moves on., nor

Pno. *mp*

1084

V. all thy pi-e-ty nor wit Shall lure it back to can-cel half a line, nor

Pno.

1093 *dim.* *p* = 60

V. all thy tears wash out a word of it. Quat-rain Fif-ty One,

Pno. *dim.* *pp*

1099

V. *Verity sobs silently.*

Ru-bai-yat of O - mar Khai - yam, Ed - ward Fitz - Ger - ald.

Pno.

mf

ff

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for a voice and piano. The voice part is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins at measure 1099. The lyrics are 'Ru-bai-yat of O - mar Khai - yam, Ed - ward Fitz - Ger - ald.' The piano part is written on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). It features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting line in the left hand. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *ff* (fortissimo). The score concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

17. Let's Have Another Glass Of Wine

PENNY

1108

1108 ♩ = 120

Verity sulks, while Penny tries to re-establish some rapport.

mf

P. *mf*

Let's have a-noth - er glass of wine, _____ and

Pno. *mf*

1117

P.

then per-haps we will be friends. _____ Let's see... Which glass is yours?

Pno. *p*

1125

P.

Of course! The one with lip-stick! You al - ways wear lip-stick.

Pno.

1133

P. *f*

And why do I know that? Be - cause I wrote you!

Pno.

1145

$\text{♩} = 80$

mp *mf dim.* *mp* *mp*

Penny pours wine into each glass.

Pno.

1151

P. *mf*

Penny

Pno. *dim.* *mp*

1155

ritardando

$\text{♩} = 80$

$\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

V. *mf*

Trying to arouse Verity's interest.

P. *mf* *2*

I my - self nev - er wear lip - stick.

Pno. *2*

VERITY

1160

Sadly.
p

VERITY
Bitterly.
f *mp*

V. Why is that? What else would it be?

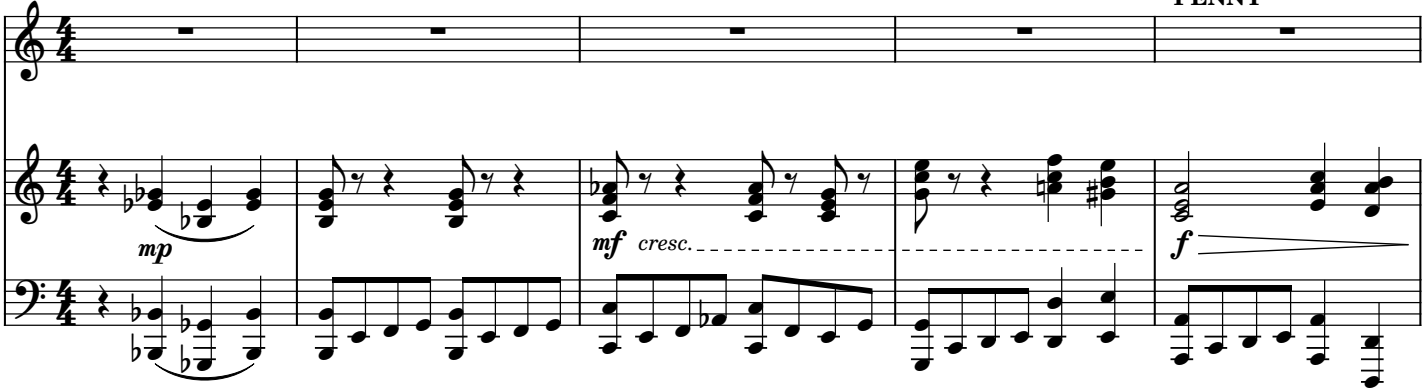
PENNY
Mysteriously.

P. It's a sad stor - y.

Pno.

18. Bad Penny Blues

1169
 ♩ = 80 **accel.** ♩ = 120 **Swing** **PENNY**

P. 

P. 
 When I was a school girl, I had the Bad Pen-ny Blues.

Pno. 

P. 
 When I was a school - girl, I had the Bad Pen-ny Blues.

Pno. 

1182

P. *mf* Flip a coin, heads or tails, I would al - ways, lose. They

Pno. *mf* *f*

1186 *f*

P. *f* called me "Bad Pen - ny" 'cause I kept turn - in' up. They

Pno. *mf* *f*

1190

P. called me "Bad Pen - ny" cause I kept turn - in up.

Pno. *mf* *f*

1194

P.

They said I was ug - ly as a junk - yard bull - dog pup.

Pno.

mf *f*

1198

P.

f

So I put on lip - stick and a fan - cy wig.

Pno.

mf *f*

1202

P.

Yeah, I put on lip - stick and a fan - cy wig.

Pno.

mf *f*

1206 1210

P. Peo-ple said, "Pen-ny put lip-stick on a pig." Bad Pen-ny Blues.

Pno. *mf* *f*

1211

P. Flip a coin and lose. Al-ways turn-in' up. Ug-ly as a pup. Lip-stick on a pig.

Pno.

1215 **ritardando** ♩ = 80

P. Lip-stick on a pig. Bad Pen-ny, Bad Pen-ny. Bad Pen - ny Blues.

Pno.

1219 **Straight**

Pno. *ff*

19. That is why I never wear lipstick

1222 $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$
 $\text{♩} = 80$

PENNY *mf*

P. That is why I nev - er wear lip - stick, and

Pno. *mf* *mp*

1232 *f* poco a poco ritardando *ff*

P. why you al - ways do. I wrote you to en - joy the joy — I

Pno. *f* *mf* *f*

1245 $\text{♩} = 60$ **VERITY** *mp*

V. If you wrote me for joy, then why am I griev -

P. nev - er knew. —

Pno. *mp*

1251 *mp*

1257 *mf* *f*

V. ing? Why must I live with-out Frank? He was the first boy I

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf*

1267

V. kissed, and the on - ly man I loved.

P. *f* PENNY Yes, I know. I wrote that.

Pno.

1273 **VERITY** *cresc.* *ff* **VERITY** *mf*

V. Our wed - ding was a day of bliss. of bliss. The

P. PENNY I wrote those words. I wrote those words.

Pno. *cresc.* *f* *ff*

1288

molto ritardando.....
cresc. ***ff*** $\text{♩} = 40$

1282

V. *fu - ture lay be - fore us like a field of gold.*

P. **PENNY**
Ver - i-ty, Ver - i-ty,

Pno. ***mf cresc.*** ***ff***

1291

P. *child! I know what I wrote! But lis - ten to me!*

Pno.

1298

P. *Lis - ten to me!*

Pno. ***mf*** ***mp***

20. Strong women must be bold!

1303
♩ = 120
1303 Penny starts marching enthusiastically back and forth. **PENNY** *f*

P. Strong wo - men must be

Pno. *ff* *mf*

1308

P. bold! Read-y — to take one for the team! Frank was just a sum-mer

Pno. *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

1312

P. dream. Now we must face the cold.

Pno. *f* *mf* *f* *ff*

The musical score is for a piece titled '20. Strong women must be bold!'. It is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 120 beats per minute. The score is divided into three systems, each with a vocal part (P.) and a piano accompaniment (Pno.). The first system starts at measure 1303 and ends at 1307. The second system starts at 1308 and ends at 1311. The third system starts at 1312 and ends at 1315. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, often in triplets, and includes dynamic markings such as *ff*, *mf*, *f*, and *ff*. The vocal part includes lyrics and a character name 'PENNY'.

1317 *f*

P. Harsh new chal-leng-es cre - ate fresh op - por - tun - i - ties for

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf*

1321

P. gain! Frank's death will cause you pain. Pain will make us great!

Pno. *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

1326

V. **1328** **VERITY** Verity counter-marches defiantly.

I will march in my own key!

Pno. *ff* *mf* *f*

1331

V. I do not care how great you are! You have gone a step too far.

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

1335 Penny reacts, first in disbelief, then in chagrin.

V. You will not use me!

Pno. *mf* *f* *ff*

1340

V. *f* If I had Frank by my side, I would be strong and bold.

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

1344 *ff*

V. I could face the cold. But this grief I can't a - bide.

Pno. *f* *ff*

1349 *dim.* *p*

Pno.

21. One Sunday morning

1353
 ♩ = ♩
 ♩ = 60
VERITY *Mournfully.*
p

V. One Sun-day morn - ing, Frank got up ear - ly, while

Pno.

1356
VERITY *mp*
 I was still a - sleep. We

P. **PENNY** *mp Reflecting sadly.*
 I wrote that. I wrote that.

Pno.

1358
 did not say good morn - ing. We did not say good morn - ing.

P. **PENNY** *mf*
 How trag - ic. How trag - ic.

Pno.

1360

V. **VERITY** *Mournfully.*
p

Frank went down-stairs and

Pno.

8

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

p

1362

V.

ate his break - fast, while I was still a -

Pno.

1364

V. **VERITY** *mp*

sleep. We did not eat to - geth - er. We

P. **PENNY** *mp*

I wrote that. I wrote that.

Pno.

8

mp 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

1366

V. *mf*
did not eat to - geth - er.

P. *PENNY*
mf
How poign - ant. How poign - ant.

Pno.

1368

V. *VERITY*
p *cresc.*
Frank left the house and went to work, while I _____ was still a -

Pno.

1371

V. *mf* *VERITY* *f*
sleep. *PENNY*
mf I did not kiss my hus - band. I

P. *mf*
I wrote that. I wrote that.

Pno.

1373

V. did not kiss my hus - band.

P. **PENNY** *f*
What sor - row! What sor - row!

Pno.

8
3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
dim.

VERITY *Mournflly.*
1375 *p*

V. Frank found two thieves, who shot him to death while I _____ was still _____ a -

P. *p*

Pno.

1378 **VERITY** *mp* **morendo** *p* = 40

V. sleep. We did not say good bye. We

P. **PENNY** *mp* *With deep regret.*
I wrote that. I wrote that.

Pno.

8
mp 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

1380 *pp* Penny sobs in sympathy and guilt.

V. *pp* did not say good bye.

Pno. *pp*

22. You gave. You took away.

1382

1382 $\text{♩} = 120$ *mp* *mf* *f*

V. You gave. You took a-way. Why did you cre - ate - me?

Pno.

1388 *ff* $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$ *VERITY f*

V. Why? — You

P. PENNY *f* *mf* *mf* *cresc.* *f*

Be-cause I love you! Oh, Ver - i - ty, Ver - i - ty, what have I done?

Pno.

1396

V. know what you've done.

Pno.

1399

V. *The ques-tion is: What will you do now? What's*

Pno. *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *sf* *ff*

1407 **1408**

V. *next for me?*

P. **PENNY** *ff* *What will I do? What's next for you?*

Pno.

1414 **VERITY**

V. *I have no i - de - al I wrote that fa - tal Chap - ter two weeks a -*

P. *I have no i - de - al I wrote that fa - tal Chap - ter two weeks a -*

Pno. *mf*

1421 VERITY

V. You mean the chap - ter where my hus - band dies? Hor - ri - ble chap - ter!

P. go. PENNY That's right. PENNY That's

Pno. *mf sf*

1427

P. right. And ev - er since I wrote those words... I know this may sound

Pno. *mf sf*

1434

P. quite ab - surd... I've been com - plete - ly stuck! Stuck! Stuck! Stuck!

Pno. *mf*

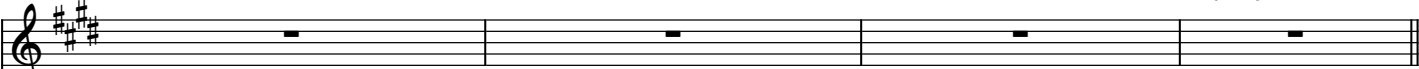
1442

P. 

I can't write a word! A word! I don't know what to

Pno. 

1451 **molto rit.....** $\text{♩} = 80$ **VERITY**

V. 

P. 

do! What to do! What to do!

Pno. 

23. Penny, Penny, you have writer's block!

1455 $\text{♩} = 120$ **VERITY** *f*

V. Pen-ny, Pen-ny, you have writ - er's block! writ - er's block!

P. **PENNY** *f* I know! I know, I

Pno. *ff*

1466

V. writ - er's block! Pen - ny, _____ Pen - ny, _____ 3 lis - ten to me. _____

P. *ff* know! I know! _____

Pno.

1478 **1479** $\text{♩} = 80$ **VERITY** *mf*

V. You have said that you cre - at - ed me for

Pno. *mp* *mf* *mp*

The musical score is written for three parts: Voice (V.), Piano (P.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The tempo is marked as 120 beats per minute (♩ = 120) for the first system and 80 beats per minute (♩ = 80) for the third system. The first system (measures 1455-1465) features a vocal melody with lyrics 'Pen-ny, Pen-ny, you have writ - er's block! writ - er's block!' and a piano accompaniment with a forte (f) dynamic. The second system (measures 1466-1477) continues the vocal melody with lyrics 'writ - er's block! Pen - ny, _____ Pen - ny, _____ 3 lis - ten to me. _____' and the piano accompaniment with a fortissimo (ff) dynamic. The third system (measures 1478-1487) features a vocal melody with lyrics 'You have said that you cre - at - ed me for' and a piano accompaniment with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The score includes various musical notations such as rests, notes, and dynamic markings.

1482

V. *f*

joy. You have said that you cre-at - ed me for love. You love me so much - that

Pno. *mf*

1486

V. *mp* *f*

when Frank died, you felt my grief. Pen - ny, Pen - ny,

Pno. *p* *mf*

1490

V.

we are bound to-gether. I put on a coat when you write a-bout cold weath - er.

Pno.

1493

V. I al-ways wear lip - stick, you nev - er do. I am the oth - er

Pno.

1496

V. half of you! So... My grief filled your heart, where it

Pno.

1499

V. crys - tal - lized and that hard lump of grief is why you're par - a -

Pno.

1502

1502

V. lyzed. Pen - ny, Pen - ny, Pen - ny,

Pno.

1505

V. here's what you must do. Trash that dread-ful chap - ter! And

Pno. *f*

1508 1512

V. write some-thing new! Write a hap-py end - ing for Frank and me!

Pno.

1514 **PENNY** *f*

P. I will trash that dread-ful chap-ter! I will write some-thing

Pno.

1523

P. new! I will write a hap - py end - ing for Frank and you!

Pno.

1533 VERITY

V. *f* *mf* *mp* But what, my dear? Why do you hes-i - tate?

P. But... But... But...

Pno.

1546 PENNY *mp*

P. What if I can't think of

Pno. *mf cresc.* *f dim.* *p*

1556

P. an - y-thing new? What if I can't find a hap - pi-er end - ing for Frank and you?

Pno.

1564 **VERITY** *f*

V. You are a wri-ter, you know how to write. Trash the bad chap - ter.

Pno.

1572

V. you'll see the light. **PENNY** *f* *mf* *mp*

P. But... But... But...

Pno.

1584 **PENNY** *mp*

P. What if I make a trag - ic mis - take? What if I write some-thing wrong and

Pno.

1592

V. VERITY *f*

You have a kind heart, you won't cause me

P. cause your heart to break?

Pno.

8

1600

V. grief. Just make sure Frank en - count-ers no thief!

P. PENNY *f* *mf* *mp*

But... But... But...

Pno.

mf *cresc.*

1610

P. PENNY *mp*

What if the end-ing is bor - ing and stale?

Pno.

(*cresc.*) *f* *dim.* *p*

8

1620

V. VERITY *f*
Pen - ny, my

P. What if my ef - forts to make us grow fall flat and fail?

Pno.

1629

V. dear - est, we've al - read-y grown. Seize the day and make it your own!

Pno.

1636 Penny goes to the computer. 1638 PENNY *ff*

P. Chap - ter Nine - teen! Chap - ter of death!

Pno.

Penny hits the delete key.

1644

P.

De - part! A - vaunt! Be - gone!

Pno.

fff

Molto ritardando.....

1651

Pno.

p *f* *p*

And.

24. Frank calls

1658 $\text{♩} = 120$

PENNY
mf

P. Pen-ny Pen-sive.

Pno. *f* 6 6 6 (Hi. This is Frank Sem-per.
pp
una corda

1666 Penny's eyes grow wide.

P. Yes, she's here. It's your hus-band.

Pno. Is Ver-i-ty there?) *f* 3

1678 $\text{♩} = 144$ $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

VERITY

V. Hel-lo, Frank, I know I'm late. Sor-ry I did-n't

Pno.

1685

$\text{♩} = 120$
 $\text{♩.} = \text{♩}$

V. call you. I'm just hav-ing a glass of wine with a friend.

Pno. (I have news. My
pp
 una corda

Verity's expression registers growing delight.

1692

Pno. fa-ther's re-tir-ing. I'll be in charge. And you'll be the head wine tast-er. So, we're

3 3 3

1705

$\text{♩.} = 144$
 $\text{♩} = \text{♩.}$

V. VERITY *f*
 Sweet-heart,

Pno. mov-ing to Or-e-gon.) *mp* *cresc.* *f* *mf*
Red. *Red.* *Red.*

1708

V. sweet-heart, won-der-ful news! I'll come right home and help you plan the move!

Pno. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

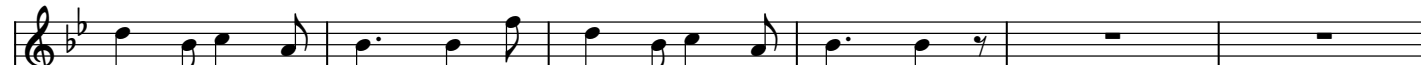
1714 VERITY 1721

V. 

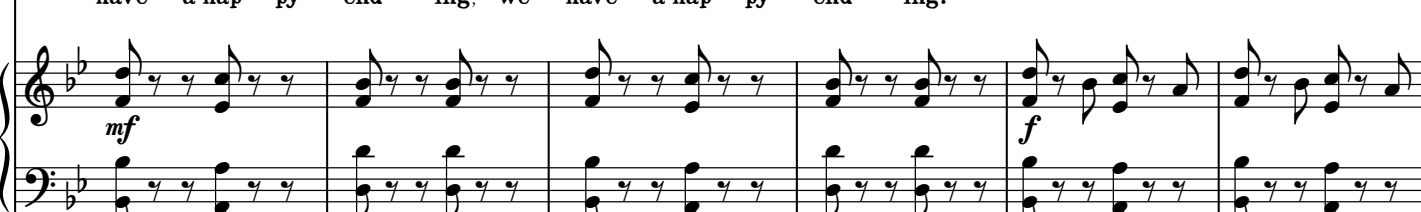
Pno. 

We

1722

V. 

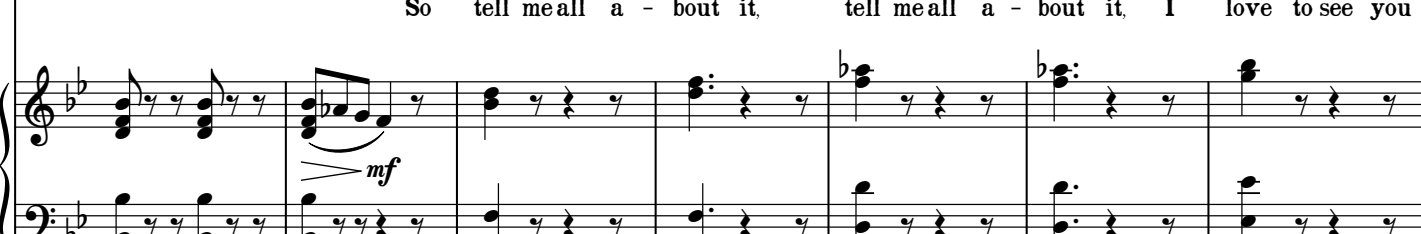
have a hap - py end - ing, we have a hap - py end - ing!

Pno. 

1728 PENNY *f*

P. 

So tell me all a - bout it, tell me all a - bout it, I love to see you

Pno. 

1735

P. 

hap - py! hap - py! Now tell me the news!

Pno. 

25. We're moving to Oregon!

1742 $\text{♩} = 144$ $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

V. VERITY *f* *Triumphantly..*

We're mov-ing to Or - e - gon! Frank's

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf*

1746

V. fa - ther is re-tir - ing, and Frank will be-come the

Pno. *f*

1750

V. man-a-ger of his fa-ther's win-er-y in Or - e - gon! And

Pno. 8 *ff*

The musical score is for a piece titled '25. We're moving to Oregon!'. It is written for Voice (V.) and Piano (Pno.) in 4/4 time. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into three systems. The first system starts at measure 1742 and ends at 1745. The second system starts at measure 1746 and ends at 1749. The third system starts at measure 1750 and ends at 1753. The voice part is written in a single staff with lyrics underneath. The piano part is written in two staves. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), and *ff* (fortissimo). There are triplets in the piano part at measures 1742-1745 and 1750-1753. A repeat sign with a first ending bracket is present in the piano part at measures 1750-1753.

1762

1763

1767

1772 **VERITY** *ff* With grandiose genstures.

V. *ff* Where loft - y moun - tains are capped with snow! _____ Where

P. *ff* Or - e-gon, in Or - e-gon.

Pno. *mf* *f* *mp* *ff*

1777

V. might-y rush-ing riv-ers flow! _____ Where cat - tle graze on the high pla - teau! _____ And

Pno. *mp* *ff* *mp* *ff*

1783 **1786**

V. grape-vines on the hill - sides grow!

P. **PENNY** *mf* Taking Verity's hands in hers, becoming serious.

There will be chal - leng-es to meet. Life is

Pno. *mf* *mp*

1791

P. *f* $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

sour as well as sweet. There may be

Pno. *f* *mf*

1797

P. hail - storms, heat waves, smoke... for cli - mate change is

Pno.

1802

P. not a joke. The grapes may with - er for un - known rea-sons.

Pno.

1809

P. *mp* *Ominously* *f*

The foot - ball teams may all have los-ing sea-sons.

Pno. *f*

1818

V. *Stoutly.* *f*

VERITY

Bring on the heat waves, bring on the hail!

Pno. *mp* *mf* *mp*

1823

V.

Frank and I will pre-vail! We are a pair of o - ver a-chiev-ers.

Pno. *mf* *f* *ff*

1829

V. We will cheer for the Ducks and Bea - vers! One for all, and

Pno.

1834

V. all for one, in Or - e - gon! Where loft - y moun-tains are

P. PENNY *f* Or - e - gon! *ff* Where loft - y moun-tains are

Pno.

1840 VERITY *ff*

They stand together and sing dramatically.

1842

V. capped with snow! Where might - y rush - ing riv - ers flow! Where

P. capped with snow! Where might - y rush - ing riv - ers flow! Where

Pno.

mp *ff* *mp* *ff*

1847

V.

cat - tle graze on the high pla-teau! And grape-vines on the hill - sides

P.

cat - tle graze on the high pla - teau! And grape-vines on the hill - sides

Pno.

mp *ff*

molto ritardando.....

1853 ♩ = 80

V.

grow!

P.

grow!

Pno.

26. Penny, it's time for me to go

1855 $\text{♩} = 80$ **VERITY** *mf* Verity turns toward Penny, looking into her eyes.

V. Pen-ny, it's time for me to go. But first... I want to

Pno. *mp*

1861 *f* say... I'm glad you don't wear lip-stick. *mf* I love your face this way. You re -

Pno. *mf*

1865 mind me of my moth-er.

P. **PENNY** *mp* Emotionally. Ver-i-ty... I am your moth - er.

Pno. *mp*

They embrace, then drift apart.

The musical score is written for voice (V.), piano (Pno.), and piano (P.). It is in 2/4 time with a tempo of 80 beats per minute. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1855-1860) features Verity singing and piano accompaniment. The second system (measures 1861-1864) continues Verity's song with a piano accompaniment that includes a double bar line and a key signature change to one sharp (F#). The third system (measures 1865-1868) features Penny singing and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes a double bar line and a key signature change to one sharp (F#). The score ends with a final measure in measure 1868.

Verity drifts toward the door, slowly spinning, as in a trance.

Penny moves in the same manner toward her daybed, which she reaches as Verity exits.

1871

1871 ♩. = 54

VERITY

V.

P.

Pno.

mf
"We are such stuff as dreams are made on;

ritardando.....

♩. = 42
pp

Penny lies down and closes her eyes.

V.

P.

Pno.

mf dim.
and our lit-tle life is round-ed with a sleep."

PENNY *p*
A sleep.____

P.

Pno.

pp
A sleep.____

ppp
Sleep.____

27. Gordon calls again

1907
1909 $\text{♩} = 120$ Penny struggles to wake up and find the phone.

Pno.

1918
PENNY *mf*
Pen-ny Pen-sive. Hel - lo,
f Cheerfully. *f*
(Hi. This is Gor-don.)
pp una corda tre corde

P.

1927
Gor-don. I have ex-cel-lent news! I will meet the dead-line!
3 3

Pno.

1934
My prob - lem is solved!

P.

Pno.

The musical score is written for piano (Pno.) and voice (P.). It consists of four systems of music. The first system (measures 1907-1909) features a piano introduction with a treble clef, 2/4 time signature, and a tempo of 120 beats per minute. The piano part consists of a continuous eighth-note pattern in the right hand, with a forte (f) dynamic and a sixteenth-note triplet (6) in the left hand. The second system (measures 1918-1927) includes vocal entries for Penny and Gordon. Penny's part begins with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and a half note, followed by a half note. Gordon's part enters with a piano (pp) dynamic and a half note, followed by a half note. The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note pattern. The third system (measures 1927-1934) features a vocal duet where Penny and Gordon sing together. The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note pattern. The fourth system (measures 1934-1935) features a vocal entry for Penny, who sings a half note. The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note pattern.

1941

P. *f* *Enthusiasticcaly, confidentially.*
 ♩. = 80 ♩ = ♩

I have had the most won-der-ful dream! I dreamed that Ver-i-ty

Pno. *mf*

1950

P. came to me, and she showed me how to end this book, and how to

Pno.

1961

P. start the next one! No, Gor-don!

Pno. *pp* *f* *Angrily.*
 (Have you gone cra - zy?)
 una corda tre corde

1972

P. I have not gone cra - zy! I said it was a dream! I was a - sleep!

Pno.

With growing indignation.

Poco a poco accelerando.....

mf cresc.

$\text{♩} = 168$

ff

1980

P. *I am not in the ha-bit of talk-ing to fic-ti-tious peo-ple when I'm a-wake! Or*

Pno. *mp cresc.* *f*

1992

$\text{♩} = 120$

1989

P. *a-gents, when I'm bus-y! What a jerk!*

Pno. *ff*

She hangs up. *She sits at her desk.*

$\text{♩} = \text{♩}$
 $\text{♩} = 80$

2002

P. *She looks around.* *f*

Pno. *mf*

This place is a mess!

2012

P. *She stands and starts straightening.*

Pno.

2019 $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$ *mp*

P. *La la la la la la la la la la la la*

Pno.

She picks up a wineglass and stares at it in astonishment.

2025 **Shouting**

P. **Lipstick!**

Pno. *f* *fff*

♩ = 144

END OF OPERA